

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 16314 271729Z

44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 018610

R 271721Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2152
INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 16314

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, GW
SUBJ: LOCKHEED, NORTHROP AND THE FRG

REF: (A) BONN 16205; (B) 14784(NOTAL)

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. LATEST VOLLEY IN GENERAL ELECTIONS-RELATED BATTLE
OVER ALLEGED ILLEGAL PAYMENTS BY LOCKHEED TO CSU
CHAIRMAN FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS WAS FIRED BY STRAUSS IN
INTERVIEW WITH WELT AM SONNTAG SEPTEMBER 26 ISSUE.
STRAUSS ASKED RHETORICALLY WHY THE FEDERAL GOVERN-
MENT HAD NOT FOLLOWED EXAMPLES OF JAPAN AND NETHER-
LANDS IN OBTAINING USG DOCUMENTS ON LOCKHEED AND
INITIATING ORDERLY PROCEEDINGS. HIS ANSWER IS THAT
THE GOVERNMENT KNEW FROM ITS OFFICIALS WHO HAD BEEN
TO WASHINGTON TO INVESTIGATE THE MATTER THAT THE AC-
CUSATION IT DESIRES FOR THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN IS NOT
CONTAINED IN THE DOCUMENTS BUT THE GOVERNMENT WANTS
TO MAINTAIN THE IMPRESSION THAT "THERE IS SOMETHING
IN IT" UNTIL OCTOBER 3 (ELECTION DAY). FURTHER,
THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT TRANSACTIONS OF THE MORE
RECENT PAST INVOLVING LOCKHEED AND OTHER COMPANIES
AND FORMER MINISTER FOR DEFENSE HELMUT SCHMIDT MIGHT
COME UP FOR DISCUSSION.

2. STRAUSS ASKED WHY SCHMIDT HAD RECEIVED THE "DIREC-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 16314 271729Z

TOR GENERAL" OF NORTHROP AND THEN HAD WRITTEN TO

PRINCE BERNHARD AND RECOMMENDED A NORTHROP WEAPONS
SYSTEM, OFFERING FINANCIAL AID IF THE NETHERLANDS
IMPORTED THAT SYSTEM. STRAUSS SAID THAT THAT WAS
TRULY AN INCIDENT THAT SHOULD CAUSE THE PRESS TO
MAKE A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION.
END UNCLASSIFIED - BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL.

3. COMMENT: FRG MINISTRY OF DEFENSE CHIEF INVESTIGATOR FRITZ JOSEF RATH RECENTLY TOLD EMBOFF
THAT HE HAD NO EVIDENCE OF ANY ILLEGAL ACTIVITY BY
NORTHROP IN GERMANY. AS NOTED REF B, FORMER CDU
MEMBER OF THE BUNDESTAG FRANZ JOSEF BACH ADMITTED TO
REPRESENTING NORTHROP THROUGH A SWISS CORPORATION.
HIS JOB WAS TO RECOMMEND NORTHROP PRODUCTS TO INFLUENTIAL
OFFICIALS IN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS WITHOUT
REVEALING THAT HE WAS A PAID REPRESENTATIVE OF NORTHROP.
HE CLAIMED, HOWEVER, THAT HE LIMITED SUCH
ACTIVITIES TO CONTACTS IN COUNTRIES OTHER THAN
GERMANY. EMBASSY HAS NO OTHER INDICATION OF NORTHROP
ACTIVITY OF THIS NATURE IN GERMANY.

HILLENBRAND

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BRIBERY, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, MILITARY SALES, INVESTIGATIONS, MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BONN16314
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760364-0696
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760918/aaaaaoxx.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 BONN 16205
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <19 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOCKHEED, NORTHROP AND THE FRG
TAGS: MASS, GE, US, LOCKHEED
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006